in the eastern Ukraine in the course of twenty years. At first their actions were moderate but with the passage of time they began to develop and to reveal those tendencies which had marked their course in the east. 728

The first task was the reorganization of the country geographically. On September 28[1] they had come to a new agreement with the Germans, whereby Germany had given up her claims to Lithuania in return for the area between the San and the Buh Rivers. So the Soviets assigned Wilno and its territory to an independent Lithuania; they annexed the region further south to the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic and the rest to the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic. This left to the Germans four sections of Western Ukraine, Kholmshchyna, Pidlyashshya, Posannya, and Lemkivshchyna, which were included in the Polish Government General and were governed directly by the Nazis, who allowed the appointment of a Ukrainian Central Committee to represent the Ukrainians before the higher authorities, especially in question of relief, etc. [648]

The Soviet territory[2] was divided into six districts with their centres at Lviv, Drohobych, Stanyslaviv, Ternopil, Rivne and Lutsk. Each of these was then divided into rayons or regions with about 25,000 population. The centres of these regions were often small towns but the division was made quite arbitrarily and each centre was amply provided with bureaucratic machinery. 728 631

The economic condition of the country was extremely bad and the only saving feature was that the harvest had already been gathered, so that there was a good chance for a large part of the agricultural population, even of the poor, to survive during the winter. Yet the influx of refugees fleeing before the German advance filled the cities and the severance of connections with the west prevented the arrival of any more manufactured goods or supplies and, of course, none came from the east. [433]

On the contrary, there came a new swarm of Soviet officials who were themselves amazed at the wealth of goods in what, to the natives, seemed impoverished markets. They brought with them liberal sums of money to buy whatever they wished and they were 436

[1] [1939 -- Analyst]

[2] [of occupied Poland -- Analyst]

Ukraine Under the Soviets

436 the more favored because the Soviets equated in value the Polish zloty and the Soviet karbovanets. When we take into consideration the fact that prior to the war a pound of meat in Poland cost four zloty and in the UkSSR twenty-five to thirty karbovantsy, the vast purchasing power of the Soviet officials can be seen. Then in December, to ruin the native population, they arbitrarily stopped the zloty as legal tender, so that the Ukrainian population lost everything, except those fortunate persons who had succeeded in exchanging their Polish money for German marks by clandestine trade across the border.

191 This swarm of officials was of various kinds. Those who were attached to fields like military affairs, the railroads, the posts and telegraphs, etc., i.e. those branches which were directly under the All-Union Commissariats, made no concealment of the fact that Russian was from now on to be the chief language. Other sections which were under the Commissariats in Kiev first adopted Ukrainian as their official tongue, but by the middle of 1940 they, too, had passed over to the use of Russian, exactly as had been done in all the offices in Kiev.

661 471 By the end of November, when the supplies in the stores were already becoming exhausted, the actual work of nationalization commenced. The former owners were often thrown out, if their establishments had been of any size, and as former wealthy individuals they were refused food tickets and other privileges on the ground that they belonged to the non-laboring element and were enemies of the people. This meant that they were compelled to sell upon the black market everything that they had been able to save or which they possessed and which had not been confiscated, and during the winter many of them, like the Polish landlowners and the police who fell into Communist hands, were deported under atrocious and inhuman conditions to Kazakhstan and Central Asia to disappear.

[665] On the other hand, the Soviets introduced at once the idea of dining halls for the workers and special stores for Communists and higher functionaries where they could secure easily and cheaply whatever there was to be obtained in Western Ukraine.

[1939--Analyst]

/91/ [Galicia] Self-Aid [Volhynia]

555 Galicia and Volhynia are parts of the ghetto of the world, lying between Cracow and Odessa. There is no question about the fact that anyone who can here compete commercially with the Jews and politically with the Poles has certain abilities. The Ukrainians of Galicia have a talent for organization. If their business methods are often primitive according to our conceptions, it is not their fault. Where proper money is scarce, [436] as is the case among all small peasants of the East and Southeast, it is replaced by some marketable goods: people unhesitatingly deal in eggs. Ukrainian cooperatives tried very hard to change these conditions; they were equally adept in ancient barter as in international business involving clearing and regulations pertaining to payments and foreign exchange.

Jews and cooperatives waged a bitter fight against each other. But where usury and chain businesses of ill repute flourish, cooperatives [452] have an easy time of it. Before the First World War the usurers demanded a 100% interest. Now they say: "I am giving you money; good, - but you must sell me your calves, your geese, your chickens and your eggs." For a zentner of seed they demand two zentner of produce from the harvest. In the gin shops they manage to obtain, by fraudulent means, the best pastures of the Huzul country, only to rent them to the former owners. If the cooperative makes its way into such villages which are under Jewish domination, it soon has the peasants on its side, and since no one buys from the Jew, no one sells to him and his inn is avoided, he must sooner or later pack up his belongings. /92/

563 For the Ukrainians the Jewish problem is a problem of food. Wherever people have ambitions and where they desire to improve their basic way of living, they run up against Jews. Jews